

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed and considered the Office Action mailed on June 19, 2002, and the references cited therewith.

Claims 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 13, and 22 have been amended, no claims have been canceled, and no claims have been added; as a result, claims 1-22 are now pending in this application. Support for the amendments to the claims can be found in the specification as originally filed. Specifically, support for the amendment to claims 1, 12, and 22 can be found, e.g., at page 8, line 24 to page 9, line 2. Support for the amendment to claim 5 can be found, e.g., at claim 7 as originally filed. Support for the amendment to claim 6 can be found, e.g., at claim 8 as originally filed. Support for the amendment to claim 7 can be found, e.g., page 9, lines 3-10. Support for the amendment to claim 8 can be found, e.g., page 9, lines 3-10. Support for the amendment to claim 13 can be found, e.g., page 11, lines 22-23. As such, no new matter has been added by way of this amendment.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1-3, 5-6, 8-13 and 17-22 were rejected under the statutory double patenting (35 U.S.C. 101) over claims 4, 7 and 14-16 of U.S. Patent No. 6,232,481. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claims 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 13, and 22 have been amended. Applicant believes the amendments to the claims obviate the double patenting rejection.

Withdrawal of the double patenting rejection is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 4, 7 and 14-16 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. It is respectfully pointed out that Applicant believes the amendments to the claims obviate this objection.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney (612-359-3261) to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

PAVEL A. KRASUTSKY

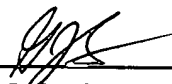
By their Representatives,

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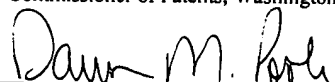
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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 2nd day of August, 2002.


Name


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